

W.
ARTHUR BOWLER

Arthur was born April 21, 1919, in Chicago, Illinois, where he lived until 1932 when he moved with his family to Winchester, Mass. He attended school and High School at Winchester, graduating in 1937. He then attended Northeastern University in Boston, Upon deciding that he did not like to study, he began selling water contracts for his father's company.

In Winchester Arthur belonged to the Winchester Boat Club, of which he was Fleep Captain. With his car loaded he drove all over New England and into Canada for paddling races. He won many medals. (Also his brother Downing).

Arthur also went through the De Molay and became Master Counsellor then went on the Advisory Board. (forget name). Became a Mason in Winchester. Attended all the Calumet and Country Club dances.

Arthur was a friend to all and his friends have always been legion. Scores came to him with their troubles seeking advice.

He loved life and was exceedingly happy until returning home from New Foundland where he had superintended for his father construction of a large water supply for the United States Government. He realized that a change was coming over him. Neither he nor his parents knew the meaning of this change, He no longer cared for anything he had previously enjoyed. His life became transformed. For weeks his family was distressed over his condition which they could not fathom.

Finally Arthur decided the Lord was calling him into the ministry as he had years ago called his grandfather and previously called his younger brother, T. Downing Bowler, now pastor of the Congregational Church, Portland Maine. To make up his mind definitely, he decided to register at a college of Theology asking the Lord to show him His desire by giving him back his peace of mind.

His happiness returned and life has been glorious ever since as he has taught and preached the gospel. He preached in many missions from the start. Has traveled on Gospel Teams throughout New England and for three years was a staff ecangelist for the New England Evangelical Association. His work has taken him into Pennsylvania and Indiana. Neither son would wait to finish his education- they began preaching soon after entering school.

His conversion has been likened to that of the Apostle Paul. He planned to forego marriage as did St. Paul. For two years he did succeed then met Ruth Anna Thomas, teacher of music at Gordon College, who was studying for her third degree at the New England Conservatory of Music. In June 1944 he forsook his promise to love only Christ and was married in Park Street Church Boston, where even the galleries were filled with friends.

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